

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School  
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**Headteacher: Mike Riches**



12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### Welcome back

It has been wonderful to see all children and their families back at school this week. We have been impressed by the behaviour and attitudes that children have shown since they returned. It can be difficult to re-adjust for some, but we are confident that over the next few days those who have found it harder to settle will do so. Please keep talking to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about your child and the way they are settling back into school life.

A few polite reminders:

- All adults are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering (unless exempt) if entering the school grounds.
- All adults must remain outside of the school buildings, unless asked to come inside by a member of staff. Parents of children in Barn Owls and Falcons classes should not need to come up the steps or ramp.

Please ensure your child has football boots or wellies in school at all times, which they can use at lunchtime when accessing the field. They are likely to need to use these for a little while longer.

I hope that there will be no need to close any bubbles over the coming weeks, but I would like to remind you that:

1. Should a child or a family member develop any of the 3 key symptoms, the whole family must self-isolate until a negative test is received; a positive test leads to self-isolation for the whole family for 10 days from the onset of symptoms / direct contact with the positive case
2. Should a child test positive, all children in the same bubble at school and any other direct contacts will need to self-isolate at home for 10 days from being in contact with the child

In either case, the school will put in place measures to ensure the continued education of all impacted.

I would like to thank you all for your support, patience and understanding over recent weeks. I know that it has been challenging for many. Your positive and constructive feedback is valued and makes a difference.

### Government 'catch up' funding

We have not yet been informed how much additional funding to expect from the latest 'catch up' funding from the Government. As soon as we know more about this, we will decide how best to use it. Our key message as a school is that any catching up required will be done over a period of time and will start with the staff finding out what children know and understand, as well as where any gaps exist. We will then decide how best to address them. We do not now know any details at present about school day extensions or summer schooling.



### **Governor feedback session – topics needed**

The Governing Body for The Pinnacle Schools Federation would like to invite you to join them at an online meeting to discuss, share and understand the important issues about school that effect you. The meeting will be held via Teams (link to be shared nearer the time) on **Thursday 18th March at 8pm**. Please forward any topics you would like to discuss to the school office by **Monday 15th March** to inform the agenda.

We look forward to seeing you then.

The Governing Body

### **Walk to School Wednesdays**

It was good to see so many join us for our first Walk to School Wednesday earlier this week, particularly on a wet and windy morning. We will continue to do this each Wednesday – please do join in if you usually need to drive to school in the morning. The meeting point is the Parish Hall which is a 5 minute walk from school and located further down the High Street on the right hand side after you have driven past school.

### **School meals and snacks**

Our current school menu will continue for the rest of this term and school meals need to be pre-booked using ParentPay as they have been previously. Orders can be placed up until 8am each morning.

Snacks will be available from the school kitchen from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Slices of toast cost 10p each and fruit costs 25p.

Any food brought to school must be healthy. Morning snacks can include a piece of fruit or a plain biscuit. Children are not able to eat unhealthy foods such as doughnuts, chocolate bars or packets of crisps for their snack.

### **Value of the term**

Running alongside our set of school values, which can be found at the top of each page on this newsletter, we focus on an additional value. This term our value of focus will be on forgiveness, which is particularly important in the run up to Easter.

Throughout every school day, we find that children go through times when they fall out with others. This is a normal part of growing up and it is our responsibility as a school to support in making up and moving on when things do go wrong. We appreciate the support of parents in helping children to get through these times as well.

### **Remote learning questionnaire**

Thank you to everyone who was able to complete our remote learning questionnaire earlier this term. It was very helpful to get an idea of how things were going and any areas that could have improved if an extension to remote learning took place. We will also now bear these comments in mind should any bubble closures occur over the next few weeks.

### **Scooters & bikes**

It has been good to see so many using scooters and bikes to get to school recently. Our bike shed is looking full and we are planning to get additional storage. We ask that you do not allow your child to ride on the school premises both at the beginning and end of the school day.



### Future INSET days

School will be closed to all children for the remaining 2 INSET days of this academic year on these dates:

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June

The first day of school in September will be Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. We will hold our first 2 INSET days on the next academic year on these dates:

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

### School Crossing Patrol

Our school currently has a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol. The details of the post are listed below.

**Role:** School Crossing Patrol – Iron Acton

**Site Location:** High Street. By School Gate

**Times:** 8.30am – 9.05am  
2.55pm – 3.25pm

**Hourly rate:** £9ph

*Full training and uniform is provided, we are happy to consider part time and/or job share for further details please contact myself, Martina Byrne-Obee 01454 863611.*

### Red Nose Day

We will be holding a non-uniform day to raise money for Red Nose Day. This will take place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Donations can either be made using cash on the day – there will be a box in school into which any money can be placed. Alternatively, donations can be made directly on the Comic Relief website:

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>

### Friends update

Earlier this week, Friends held their AGM, which was a success; thanks to everyone who attended. A review of the past year's social and fundraising events took place along with both income and expenditure. Despite it having been a quieter year than most, there were some opportunities to raise money and to spend it. Going forward, there are few fundraising ideas in the pipeline so hopefully guidelines permitted they can go ahead in 2021.

A new committee has been agreed. We would like to say thank you to Mrs Jones for being staff representative for the past 3 years. Mrs Jones is stepping down and will be replaced by Mrs Hampson.

Our next event will be Easter themed and will take place in school time on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. More details to follow.



**Dates for your diary**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Information</b>
Governor feedback session	18.03.21 8.00pm	Link sent next week.
Red Nose Day	19.03.21	There will be an opportunity to children to wear clothes other than school uniform to raise money for this important cause.
Easter service	01.04.21	We hope to hold our Easter service in the church. This will be for children only.
Last day of Term 4	01.04.21 3.15pm	
First day of Term 5	19.04.21 8.55am	
May Bank Holiday	03.05.21	School will be closed to children.
INSET day	21.05.21	School will be closed to children.
World Book Day	26.05.21	Children will be invited to dress up this year.
Last day of Term 5	28.05.21 3.15pm	
First day of Term 6	07.06.21 8.55am	
INSET day	21.06.21	School will be closed to children.
Last day of Term 6	21.07.21 3.15pm	

**Please note: these dates may be changed or cancelled if necessary. We will try to provide as much notice as possible if this is the case.**

